

COUNTYWIDE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

November 7, 2016

MEETING NOTES

Present: Morton Davis, Renee Katz, Dave Magill, Vernard McBeth, Mark Pharaoh, Ingrid Pufahl, Felecia Wilson, Gabe Alborno [Rec], Jeff Bourne [Rec], Susan Hoffmann [Rec], John Nissel [Parks], Robin Riley [Rec]

Absent: Wesley Japp, Paul Lofgren, Chris Richardson, Susan Hartung [Commission on Disabilities], Ron Maxson [CUPF], Mike Riley [Parks], June Zillich [MCPS]

Guests: Brooke Farquhar [Parks]

David Magill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

There being no quorum, the vote on approval of the agenda and the September and October meeting notes was delayed, but were unanimously approved later in the meeting.

Rec Update – Gabe Alborno

- October 22 was the opening of the Nancy H. Dacek No. Potomac Community Recreation Center. Approximately 500 community members attended, including County Executive Ike Leggett, and several members of the County Council.
- October 29 was the opening of the Ross Boddy Neighborhood Recreation Center. The renovation at Ross Boddy included the addition of a full gym.
- Six of the nine early voting sites were held in Montgomery County Community Recreation Centers. Our facilities were not equipped to handle the crowds. Twenty-eight percent of the Montgomery County population voted early. The breakdown: 469,000 Democrats, 225 Republicans, and 64,000 Independents. This was a significant challenge to some of our centers, as they are not equipped to handle that level of demand. The Potomac Community Recreation Center was particularly pressed as it was the site of the fourth largest vote cast in Maryland, and second largest in Montgomery County. Parking was challenging and crossing guards were needed to be brought in to help direct the volume.
- Staff was directed to send recognition from the Countywide Recreation Advisory Board at the end of the year to those who were involved in the election process in Montgomery County Recreation.
- Basketball enrollment is down a bit. The deadline has been extended.
- Senior centers' evening hours will be extended to meet the demand.
- In the process of hiring Recreation coordinators who will serve as assistant center directors.
- Recreation has viewed a new soccer program which will serve as a diversion initiative to intervene with gang youth. It is called Soccer for Life and there are eight teams in total.
- Recreation is looking at providing sports to young people who are not signing up for important sports or enrichment programs. They will be made accessible and affordable. A Board member inquired as to whether area businesses could sponsor these programs.

Jeff – CIP Status Report

- Distributed report

Parks Update – John Nissel

- November 5 – grand opening of the Greenbrier Themed Playground
- Wrapped up the Emancipation Day Experiences Program
- Purchased a portable Ramp Track – a bike track with bicycles
- The Maydale meeting was successful. It will be a completely self-sustaining facility.
- The Rock Creek maintenance yard is now a green facility.
- In March a move will be made to the facility adjacent to the Airpark.

Local Board Reports

- Eastern County, Mark Pharaoh – no report
- Mid County, Paul Lofgren – absent
- Upper County, Vernard McBeth – no report

Ex Officio Reports

- Community Use of Public Facilities, Ron Maxson – absent
- Commission on Aging – [VACANT]
- MCPS, June Zillich – absent
- Commission on People with Disabilities, Susan Hartung – absent

Old/New Business – Dave Magill

- Discussed current status of newly-named/reconstituted Board
- Tabled remainder of agenda for December meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.